

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (original): An electrical insulator comprising:
  - a dielectric rod (1) including at least one slot (10);
  - an optical fiber cable (2) situated in the slot (10);
  - a dielectric material (8) filling the slot (10) and holding the cable (2) without stress in the slot (10); and
  - a dielectric covering (3) surrounding the rod (1) and presenting outwardly-directed projections (30) in the form of skirts;

the electrical insulator being characterized in that the cable (2) is flexible; and

in that all of the space situated between the rod (1) and the cable (2) is filled with said dielectric filler and holding material (8).
2. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that the slot (10) is deeper than it is wide;
  - in that the cable (2) is situated closer to the bottom (12) of the slot (10) than to the opening (11) of the slot (10); and

in that the covering (3) is a single piece secured to the rod (1) and directly in contact with the rod (1).

3. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 2, characterized in that the depth (p) of the slot (10) lies in the range 15 mm to 25 mm.

4. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that the covering (3) comprises a plurality of skirts (30) stacked one on another.

5. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 4, characterized in that the electrical insulator also includes an intermediate tube (34) situated between the rod (1) and the covering (3).

6. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 5, characterized in that the intermediate tube (34) and the covering (3) are made of the same material.

7. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that the rod (1) includes a plurality of slots (10) regularly spaced apart around its periphery.

8. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that the rod (1) is made of fiberglass.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q79969

9. (currently amended): An electrical insulator according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, characterized in that the filler and holding material (8) is a silicone paste that withstands high temperatures.

10. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that the optical fiber cable (2) is a telecommunications cable.

11. (currently amended): An electrical insulator according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, characterized in that the diameter (d) of the optical fiber cable (2) lies in the range 5 mm to 10 mm.

12. (original): An electrical insulator according to claim 1, characterized in that the optical fiber cable (2) comprises a central reinforcing element (21) having tubes (22) disposed thereabout, said tubes (22) containing said optical fibers (23), and themselves being surrounded by an outer sheath (26).

13. (currently amended): An electrically insulating transition comprising an electrical insulator according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, the electrically insulating transition being characterized in that it comprises at least two parts that are releasably connected together, namely the electrical insulator and a box (51) situated at one end (5) of the electrical insulator.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q79969

14. (original): An electrically insulating transition according to claim 13, characterized in that the box (51) contains a cassette (4) for storing optical fiber splices.

15. (currently amended): A system comprising at least one optical phase conductor (7) connected to an electrically insulating transition comprising an electrical insulator according to claim 1, ~~or to an electrically insulating transition according to claim 13.~~

16. (new): An electrically insulating transition according to claim 13.